

REFLECTIONS

FROM A BOARD ROOM MIRROR.

The Treasurer of University College Hospital has received donations of £700 from Sir Ernest Cassel, and £100 from the Hon. F. H. Baring towards the general fund of the hospital.

The fortieth annual Central Poor Law Conference will be held on February 13th and 14th, at the Holborn Hall, Gray's Inn Road, Mr. Charles Booth, F.R.S., presiding. The Mayor of Holborn (Mr. Walter Hazell) will open the proceedings.

Papers on "The Poor Law and the National Insurance Act" and on "The Poor Law and Old Age Pensions" will be read on the first day.

On the second day "The After-care of Poor Law Children" will be considered. Papers will be read by Miss G. R. Egerton, on "The Girls' Friendly Society," by Miss Dalglish on "The Metropolitan Association for Befriending Young Servants," and by Mr. Henry F. New on "The Association for Befriending Boys," and Dr. John Grimes on "The Emigration of Poor Law Children."

Dr. W. D. Moore, the medical superintendent of the Holloway Sanatorium, Virginia Water, has been the recipient of a silver salver, towards the cost of which nearly three hundred members of the staff, past and present, subscribed, in recognition of the twenty years' service he has given to the institution.

The Goldsmiths' Company have granted £10,000 to the building fund of King's College for Women, and £5,000 for the endowment fund of Bedford College for Women.

The annual report of the Aberdeen Eye Institution, presented by Dr. A. Rudolf Galloway, states "that during the year contagious ophthalmia or 'pink eye' of school children has continued to bulk largely on the attendance register; 1,387 new cases were treated in children, and 496 in adults, 1,883 cases in all. The treatment of such a large number of noisy school children, the bulk of whom had to attend daily for two or three weeks, so seriously interfered with the ordinary work of the institution, that the Princes Street entrance had to be opened and reserved for them alone. In addition to this, the services of a School Board official had to be requisitioned to keep order; and the treatment of the cases, after the first visit and examination by myself, had to be taken in hand by Miss Boyd, in addition to her other duties."

WELCOME HELP.

The Society for State Registration of Nurses.—The President acknowledges with many thanks the following donations: Anon., per Miss Breay, £2; Miss G. J. Challis, 2s.

Nurses Protection Committee.—Miss Eleanor Farrington, 5s.

OUTSIDE THE GATES.

WOMEN.

The final struggle for the enfranchisement of women is to be fought in bitter earnest during the next few months and, if we are to believe Lady Frances Balfour—and who should be in a better position to express an opinion on Parliamentary tactics—any hope of justice or even chivalry from our legislators is hopeless. In seconding a resolution in support of Suffrage at Richmond, on Saturday last, Lady Frances Balfour said: "I have seen politics too long, and Ministers come and go, to put the slightest trust in any one of them. They are all made of pie-crust, and what you have to do is to make them feel that it is to their interest to forward our interests, and that there is no peace nor rest for any of them until they have done justice to the people of this country." That is a bit of businesslike advice.

For unblushing trickery nothing could exceed the shifty methods to which anti-Suffrage politicians will descend and we are not surprised that the following resolution, proposed by Mrs. Fawcett, L.L.D., in the Brighton Dome, was passed with enthusiasm:

"That this meeting protests against the exclusion of women from the Government Reform Bill, regards the proposal to single out woman suffrage for the application of the referendum as a discreditable trick to defeat votes for women, and confidently anticipating that during the session of 1912 the House of Commons will pass the measure for the enfranchisement of women, pledges itself to use every effort to secure that result."

Mr. Lloyd George has described a referendum as "a costly method of denying justice!"

It is refreshing to turn from all this hideous intolerance to affairs of Scandinavian women. A Bill has lately been drafted to give Parliamentary votes to women in Sweden, and both sections of the Storting in Norway have adopted a Bill admitting women to appointment as public officials. Both Bills will be sent to the Kings for their assent. Women are already enfranchised in Norway—so that our Queen Maud reigns over a free people. Let us hope that long before the Crown Princess of Sweden, another English princess, comes to the throne, Swedish women may also enjoy the same dignity.

Mlle. Sarah Monod, of Paris, has received the Grand Cross of the Legion of Honour, in recognition of her work as President of the National Council of Women in France.

The Lady Mayoress (Miss Crosby) attended a drawing-room meeting of the British Medical Benevolent Fund Guild last week at 100, Harley Street, and promised to hold a ladies' meeting in the Mansion House to make the work of the Guild better known.

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